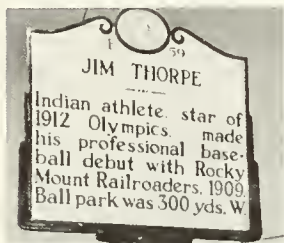




One of the few reminders of the leisurely, by-gone era at the covered bridge is preserved near the State Highway Park on U. S. 64 & 70 east of Hickory. This is known as the Bunker Hill bridge. It is one of three still standing, none in use but all accessible. Both the others are in Randolph County. The Uwharrie River bridge is 8 miles west of Asheboro, and Pisgah Bridge is reached by secondary road N. C. 1114 from U. S. 220 at Utoh.

A historical marker at Capitol Square in Raleigh tells the story of the day when railroad building was as experimental as space rockets are today. This was 1833. The rails were laid out New Bern Avenue a distance of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles. The mule-drawn cars hauled granite from a quarry in East Raleigh for constructing the Capitol. Thus began the era of railroad construction. In 1835 construction started on the Raleigh and Gaston, now part of the Seaboard. The Wilmington and Weldon, now part of the Atlantic Coast Line, was completed in 1840.



The historical marker above is evidence that North Carolina history is far from being only a chronicle of wars and exploration and science and industry. Far from it. Here in Rocky Mount an event occurred that shook the sports world, for here it was that the world's greatest athlete, the Indian Jim Thorpe, played professional baseball and thereby invalidated the medals he won later as an amateur in the Olympic games.

And at Fayetteville, there is another historical marker designating the place where Babe Ruth hit his first home run in professional baseball. It was in March 1914.



"Tweetsie" is symbolic of a by-gone era. This narrow-gauge railroad was operated by the East Tennessee and Western North Carolina Railroad, chartered in 1866. It operated until 1950 terminating at Boone, N. C. The train originally came into being to haul ore from the Cranberry, N. C., iron mines, but as their quickest link with the outside world, it was regarded affectionately by the mountain people it served. The locomotive and cars were purchased by Grover Robbins of Blowing Rock in 1957 and "Tweetsie" is now operated as a part of a large recreational park known as "Tweetsie Railroad" on U. S. Highway 321 between Blowing Rock and Boone.